

Message Text

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PAGE 01 IZMIR 00513 122019Z

63

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 CU-04 OMB-01 DRC-01 /053 W

----- 112011

R 121350Z DEC 73

FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1114

AMCONSUL ANDANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJECT: STUDENT CLASH AT EGE UNIVERSITY

SUMMARY:

DEC 6 A CLASH OCCURRED BETWEEN TWO GROUPS OF STUDENTS AT EGE UNIVERSITY. CONFLICT POLITICAL IN NATURE AND MAY HAVE BEEN PROVOKED BY OUTSIDE ELEMENTS. END SUMMARY.

1. DEC 7 IZMIR PRESS HEADLINED STORY OF CLASH BETWEEN STUDENTS OF EGE UNIVERSITY ENGINEERING FACULTY AND SECONDARY TEACHERS SCHOOL. LATTER SCHOOL NOT PART OF EGE UNIVERSITY COMPLEX BUT LOCATED NEARBY.

PAGE 2 RUQNBWA0825 C O N F I D E N T I A L

INCIDENT OCCURRED IN EGE UNIVERSITY CAFETERIA AND INVOLVED APPROXIMATELY 50 STUDENTS. HEADLINES SUGGESTED INCIDENT WAS CLASH BETWEEN RIGHTIST AND LEFTIST STUDENTS, BUT TEXT OF STORY PORTRAYED EVENT AS CONFLICT OVER USE OF CAFETERIA FACILITIES.

2. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GATHER CONFLICT APPARENTLY WAS POLITICALLY ORIENTED. ENGINEERING STUDENTS, UNHAPPY WITH UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION (PARTICULARLY DEAN KEMAL KARHAN) WERE HAVING NORMAL HEATED DISCUSSION IN CAFETERIA
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PAGE 02 IZMIR 00513 122019Z

ON DEC 6. AS RESULT THESE DISCUSSIONS ONE STUDENT

REPORTEDLY WROTE SLOGANS ON WALL ATTACKING KARHAN AND "OTHER FASCISTS". AT THIS POINT SMALL GROUP OF YOUTHS, SUPPOSEDLY STUDENTS FROM SECONDARY TEACHERS SCHOOL, INTERVENED TO REMOVE SIGN AND DEFEND KARHAN. 3. ARGUMENT BETWEEN TWO GROUPS GREW HEATED AND SHIFTED TO NATIONAL POLITICS. SECONDARY TEACHERS SCHOOL ARGUED RIGHT WING COALITION GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE FORMED AND THAT "COMMUNISTS" SHOULD BE PREVENTED FROM DOING SO. ENGINEERING STUDENT RESPONDED THAT

PAGE 3 RUQNBWA0825 C O N F I D E N T I A L

THEY (AND RPP) NOT COMMUNISTS. AT THIS POINT VIOLENCE ERUPTED. UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS SUMMONED POLICE AND GENDARMERY WHO RESTORED ORDER AFTER APPROXIMATELY \$700 U.S. DAMAGE DONE. EIGHT ENGINEERING STUDENTS WERE DETAINED FOR TWO HOURS THEN RELEASED. SUPPOSED SECONDARY TEACHERS SCHOOL STUDENTS DISAPPEARED. 4. FOLLOWING DAY DEAN OF AGRICULTURAL FACULTY AT EGE UNIVERSITY RECEIVED TIP THAT ATTEMPT WOULD BE MADE THAT NIGHT TO PROVOKE FIGHTS IN HIS SCHOOL. HE ALERTED GENDARMERY AND/COMMANDO UNITS WERE STATIONED AROUND FACULTY BUILDINGS THROUGH ENTIRE NIGHT. NO INCIDENTS OCCURRED.

5. COMMENT: RPP LEADER ECEVIT IN SPEECH DEC 11 SUGGESTED THIS INCIDENT EXAMPLE OF EFFORTS BY UNNAMED ELEMENTS TO PROVOKE SITUATION WHICH MIGHT PREVENT FORMATION OF GOVERNMENT BY RPP OR DELAY NEW ELECTIONS. WHILE WE UNABLE TO VERIFY ECEVIT'S INTERPRETATION. THERE ARE UNANSWERED QUESTIONS ABOUT AFFAIR, I.E., WHERE WERE OUTSIDER STUDENTS ACTUALLY FROM? (ONE CONGEN SOURCE ALLEGES INCIDENT

PAGE 4 RUQNBWA0825 C O N F I D E N T I A L

PROVOKED BY SIX OUTSIDERS FROM ANKARA AND THAT SECONDARY TEACHERS SCHOOL STUDENTS NOT INVOLVED.) WHY WERE NO "OUTSIDERS" ARRESTED? (EXPLANATIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 IZMIR 00513 122019Z

RANGE FROM PROFESSIONAL AGITATORS WHO STARTED INCIDENT AND RANHTO SUGGESTIONS OF COLLUSION BETWEEN OUTSIDERS AND UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES, A POLITICAL PARTY OR POLICE.) FACT IS, REGARDLESS OF GENESIS OF INCIDENT IT BEING INTERPRETED BY SOME AS FIRST SIGN OF RESURGENCE OF KIND OF STUDENT UNREST WHICH PRECEDED MARCH 12 MEMORANDUM, AND THERE IS CONCERN ONE INCIDENT, PROVOKED OR NOT, MAY QUICKLY LEAD TO

OTHERS.
SMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: n/a
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